



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2013

LCO No. 7654

HB0656107654HD0

Offered by:

REP. HENNESSY, 127th Dist.

SEN. LEONE, 27th Dist.

REP. YACCARINO, 87th Dist.

To: House Bill No. **6561**

File No. 95

Cal. No. 93

"AN ACT CONCERNING VETERANS."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Adjutant General and
4 two officers of field grade or above, appointed by the Adjutant
5 General, shall constitute a board of officers to receive
6 recommendations, through military channels, for the award, within
7 available appropriations, of the medal of achievement to any member
8 of the Connecticut National Guard who has distinguished himself or
9 herself through outstanding achievement or meritorious service
10 during the performance of any state military service, including
11 military service described in section 27-61 of the general statutes and
12 military service performed pursuant to chapter 518 of the general
13 statutes. A bronze oak leaf cluster shall be issued in lieu of succeeding
14 awards and a silver oak leaf cluster shall be worn in lieu of five bronze

15 oak leaf clusters.

16 Sec. 2. Section 27-73a of the general statutes is repealed and the
17 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

18 The Adjutant General, at his or her discretion, may issue an
19 appropriate service ribbon to all members of the armed forces of the
20 state ordered to active duty in time of emergency [in accordance with
21 section 27-14] for upholding the law and preserving order, [or]
22 protecting lives and property, [or] assisting civil authorities, [or the]
23 providing aid and relief [of] to civilians in disaster or similar service
24 ordered by the Governor. A bronze oak leaf cluster shall be issued in
25 lieu of succeeding awards and a silver oak leaf cluster [may] shall be
26 worn in lieu of [three] five bronze oak leaf clusters. [This section shall
27 apply to service rendered on or after August 19, 1955.]

28 Sec. 3. Section 27-73b of the general statutes is repealed and the
29 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

30 The Adjutant General shall issue an appropriate service ribbon to all
31 members of the unit declared to be the outstanding company-size unit
32 in the Connecticut National Guard in accordance with National Guard
33 regulations, provided such members participated in at least fifty per
34 cent of the unit's training activities during the period covered by the
35 award. A bronze oak leaf cluster shall be issued in lieu of succeeding
36 awards and a silver oak leaf cluster [may] shall be worn in lieu of
37 [three] five bronze oak leaf clusters. [These awards shall be made
38 retroactive to 1947.]

39 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) The Commissioner of
40 Emergency Services and Public Protection is authorized, within
41 available appropriations, to award the civilian medal of honor, in
42 accordance with the provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this
43 section, directly or posthumously to any citizen of the state in
44 recognition of a valorous and heroic deed performed in saving a life or
45 for injury or death or threat of injury or death incurred in the service of

46 the state or such citizen's community or on behalf of the health, welfare
47 or safety of other persons.

48 (b) Recommendations for the civilian medal of honor may be
49 submitted to the commissioner, in the form and manner prescribed by
50 the commissioner, by any member of the public. The commissioner
51 shall forward such recommendations to a selection board consisting of
52 members appointed as follows: One member appointed by the
53 Governor, two members appointed by the Commissioner of
54 Emergency Services and Public Protection, one member appointed by
55 the president pro tempore of the Senate, one member appointed by the
56 speaker of the House of Representatives, one member appointed by
57 the majority leader of the Senate, one member appointed by the
58 minority leader of the Senate, one member appointed by the majority
59 leader of the House of Representatives and one member appointed by
60 the minority leader of the House of Representatives. The board
61 member selected by the Governor shall act as chairperson of the
62 selection board and shall call meetings of the selection board, which
63 shall occur at least once each calendar year.

64 (c) The selection board shall review recommendations for the
65 civilian medal of honor submitted by the public and shall select
66 nominees for such medal, giving due consideration to the criteria
67 described in subsection (a) of this section. The commissioner shall
68 review the selection board's nominations and award the civilian medal
69 of honor to any such nominee whom the commissioner deems
70 deserving."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	27-73a
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	27-73b
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section